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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7429

BILL NUMBER: SB 1

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 25, 2013

BILL AMENDED: Feb 21, 2013

SUBJECT: School Resource Officers.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Miller Pete

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Torr

BILL STATUS: As Passed Senate

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill specifies how a school resource officer program may be established and sets forth duties and responsibilities for school resource officers. It provides that a person, before being appointed as a school resource officer, must successfully complete the training requirements for law enforcement officers and receive 40 hours of certified school resource officer training.

The bill establishes the Indiana Secured School Fund under the administration of the Department of Homeland Security to provide matching grants to enable school corporations and charter schools to establish programs to:

1. Employ school resource officers;
2. Conduct threat assessments of school buildings; or
3. Purchase safety equipment and technology.

The bill creates the Secured School Safety Board to approve or disapprove applications for matching grants from the fund and to develop best practices for school resource officers. It provides that a matching grant from the fund may not exceed the lesser of: (1) 50% of the total costs of the funded program; or (2) \$50,000 per year. The bill also specifies that, to be awarded a matching grant, a school (including a coalition of schools applying jointly) must have an ADM of at least 1,000, and that a school may receive only one matching grant each year.

The bill eliminates the authority to use money in the Safe Schools Fund for certain purposes.

Effective Date: Upon passage.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Grant Program:* The impact of the bill would depend on appropriations by the General Assembly and the number of school corporations and charter schools, or coalitions of schools, that are awarded grants. There are about 365 school corporations and charter schools. There are about 122 school corporations and charter schools with less than 1,000 students. The maximum impact of the grant program would be between \$12.2 M and \$15.1 M, depending on how school corporations with fewer than 1,000 students combine to submit joint applications.

(Revised) *Secured School Fund and Secured School Safety Board:* The bill creates the Indiana Secured School Fund. The fund consists of appropriations by the General Assembly, grants from the Safe School Fund, federal grants, and amounts from private or public sources. The money in the fund does not revert to the state General Fund at the end of a fiscal year. Grants from the fund would be awarded by the Secured School Safety Board, which consists of the following five members:

1. The Executive Directory of the Department of Homeland Security or their designee.
2. The Attorney General or their designee.
3. The Superintendent of the State Police Department or their designee .
4. A local law enforcement officer appointed by the Governor.
5. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction or their designee.

(Revised) The Safe School Fund would be used to promote school safety through the use of dogs trained to detect illegal substances and to purchase other equipment and materials used to enhance school safety.

Background: The average salary of a school resource officer is about \$50,000 annually. The cost of basic training for a law enforcement officer is about \$7,500 for 15 weeks of training. The state provides the training to local departments at no cost.

Additional training may be needed for a law enforcement officer to be a school resource officer. According to the National Association of school Resource Officers, the cost of 40 hours of school officer resource training is about \$495.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: See *Explanation of State Expenditures*.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Attorney General, Criminal Justice Institute, State Budget Committee.

Local Agencies Affected: Local schools.

Information Sources: National Association of school Resource Officers website, <http://www.nasro.org/class-training> .

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